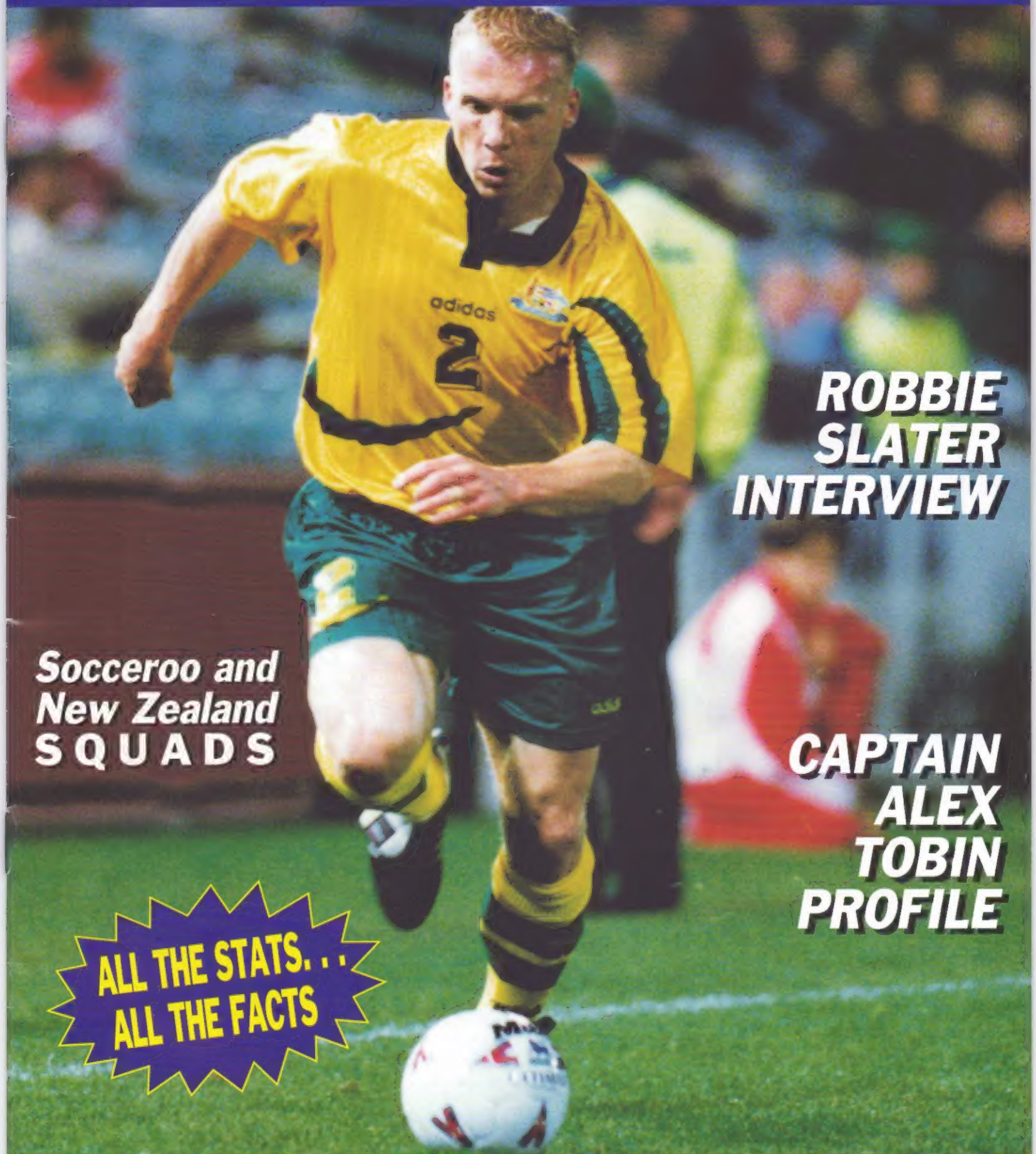
OCEANIA WORLD CUP PLAY-OFFS

SOCCEROOS v NEW ZEALAND



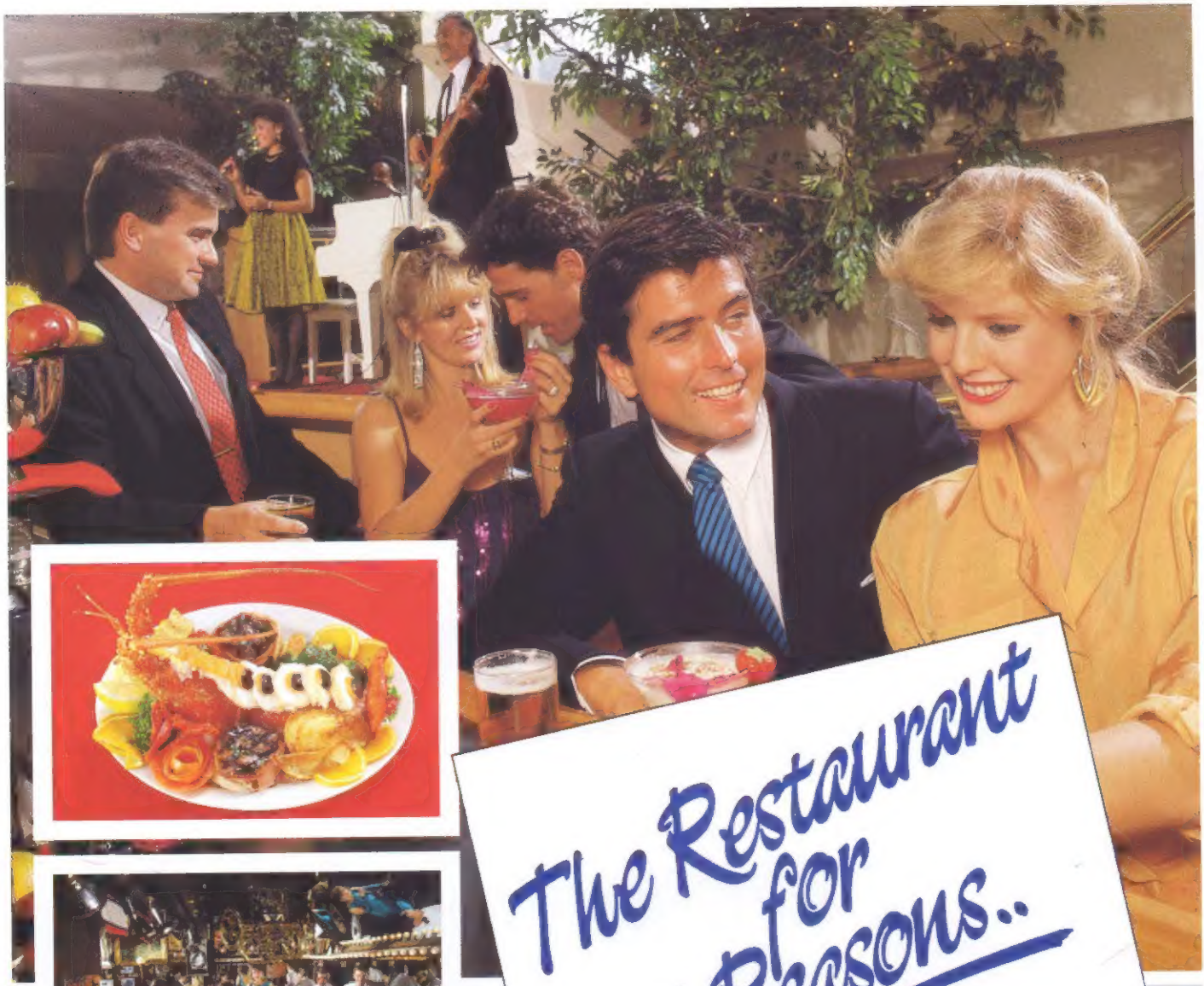
ROBBIE SLATER INTERVIEW

Socceroo and New Zealand SQUADS

CAPTAIN ALEX TOBIN PROFILE

ALL THE STATS, . . . ALL THE FACTS

SYDNEY FOOTBALL STADIUM JULY 5, 1997



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THE COACH'S VIEW

Terry Venables talks to Soccer Australia Publicist, Stephen Copping

Tonight's match will determine who will meet the fourth-best qualifier from Asia: Australia or New Zealand. The 1998 World Cup is less than a year away and qualifying for the finals in France is very important for everyone in Australia.

Since my appointment as the Socceroos' coach it has been a very hectic time. We have been experimenting with the make-up of the team since January, 1997. Obviously, the side that faced New Zealand last week gave me great satisfaction.

The 1st Leg in Auckland, played at North Harbour Stadium, was a real test of the players' resolve. We won 3-0 but what pleased me was our first-half performance. We kept it simple, released the ball first time and put pressure on every single All Whites player when they had possession.

Yes, overall it was a very pleasing victory.

To me there are no more friendly internationals. If we qualify to play an Asian-based team then we will have to have more get-togethers with the Socceroos.

The Nintendo Superstars Series and then the Oceania World Cup qualifiers have given me the opportunity to establish a closer relationship with the home-based and overseas players.

We undoubtedly have players of the highest talent. I have been impressed with the professionalism, work-like attitude and commitment to the World Cup mission. There is still plenty of scope to add to the squad in the coming months. Paul Okon's injury has been a big blow but he should be fully match fit soon.

However, it is premature to suggest that the team will not change, my experience when coaching England to the Euro 96 Semi-Finals is proof that you must have a versatile, and large enough squad to take into account injuries, suspensions and players' occasional dip in form.

The Young Socceroos' performance in the World Youth Championships is another major plus. Many of these young guns are not far away from Socceroo selection.

All coaching jobs are riddled with difficulty but I am certainly enjoying my time as the Australian coach. The support I have had from assistant coach Raul Blanco and Les Scheinflug has been tremendous.

Tonight is all about the players. They now have to go out and do the job I know they can do.

The players are still learning about my style of play. There are so many different types of players who have all managed to channel their skills to a high level - be it overseas or in the National League.

In this match, I look forward to Australia defending our unbeaten run and qualifying for the Asian clash.

Enjoy the game.
TERRY VENABLES

TERRY VENABLES: COACHING RECORD SO FAR

	Venables In Charge	Australian Victory
Match 1:	Socceroos 1 New Zealand 0	*Yes*
Match 2:	Socceroos 2 South Korea 1	*Yes*
Match 3:	Socceroos 1 Norway 0	*Yes*
Match 4:	FYR of Macedonia 0 Socceroos 1	*Yes*
Match 5:	Hungary 1 Socceroos 3	*Yes*
Match 6:	Socceroos 13 Solomon Islands 0	*Yes*
Match 7:	Socceroos 5 Tahiti 0	*Yes*
Match 8:	Solomon Islands 2 Socceroos 6	*Yes*
Match 9:	Tahiti 0 Socceroos 2	*Yes*
Match 10:	New Zealand 0 Socceroos 3	*Yes*

3 ..... The Coach's View
5 ..... Mr Chairman
6 & 7 ..... Skipper Tobin
8 & 9 ..... Robbie Slater
11 & 14 ..... The NZ Squad
12 & 13 ... The Aussie Squad
17 ..... For the Record
18 & 19 ..... Head to Head
21-22 ..... A Look Back

THE MAGAZINE TEAM

Editor: Stephen Copping

Contributors: Doug Conway (AAP), Peter Law (442), Micky Brock, Stuart Jones, Terry Venables, Alex Tobin, Robbie Slater

Remember when that guy was lining up a PENALTY KICK, and **you** were thinking, **MISS, MISS, MISS?**

And then he kicked and he Missed.

So you start thinking "maybe that happened because of ME.

Maybe if I think hard enough, CHEER, no SCREAM HARD enough, this game will be ours."

Well, we didn't want to be the ones to break this to you, but see that guy sitting opposite you? Yeah, the one holding the 'Coke', cheering for the other side. Guess what? He's thinking the SAME THING you are.

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Mr Chairman

What a match this should be! The 2nd Leg between the Socceroos and New Zealand promises to reach a huge sporting audience in Australia. We will have to wait for the final whistle at the Sydney Football Stadium to see if Australia can overcome the All Whites in our quest to qualify for the next stage of the World Cup qualifiers.

New Zealand were wonderful hosts during the Socceroos' visit for the 1st Leg of the Oceania World Cup qualifiers. Soccer Australia welcomes the entire New Zealand contingent.

We hope all of you enjoy tonight's match. There should be a carnival-like atmosphere at the Sydney Football Stadium, even though the result of this match has such important consequences.

It has been a very busy time for all connected to Australian soccer. The Ericsson Cup Grand Final, in front of 40,000-plus supporters at Suncorp Stadium, Brisbane, was followed by Australia's comfortable victories over Tahiti and the Solomon Islands during the Oceania World Cup qualifiers.

There is no doubt that National Coach Terry Venables has one of the strongest Australian soccer squads in the history of the game. The 3-0 victory against the All Whites proved that. The likes of Mark Bosnich, Aurelio Vidmar and Robbie Slater are now permanently etched in the minds of Australian sports fans.

Our international performances keep improving. Robbie Slater recently said that the Socceroos' victory against Hungary was one of our best matches. If we can defeat arch-rivals New Zealand, and then qualify for the 1998 World Cup by beating the fourth-best Asian qualifier, then I believe we will achieve world-wide recognition in France.

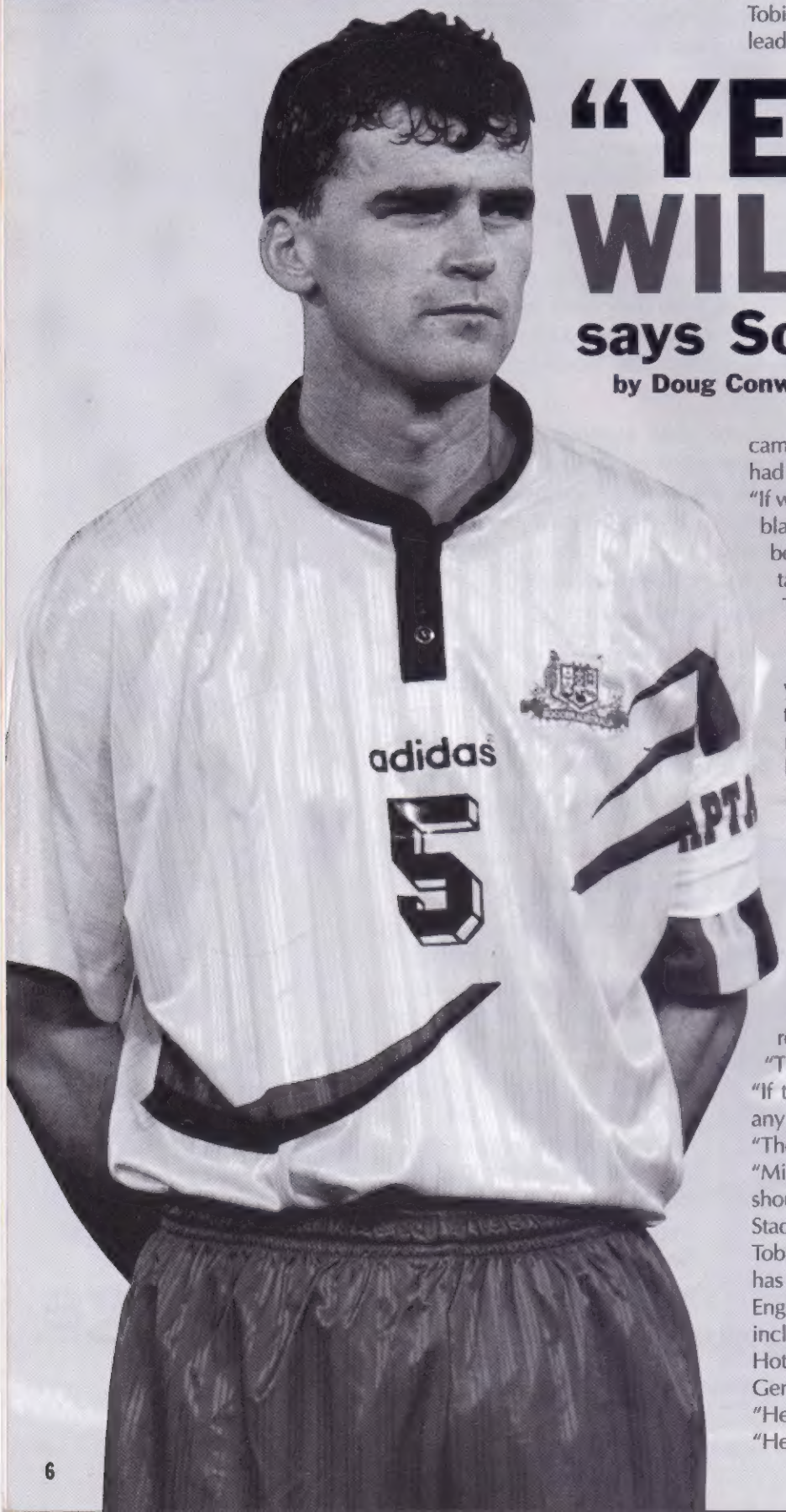
It is also time to be positive about everything Soccer Australia is trying to do. It is now the time to focus on the players on the park.

We are also looking forward to the 1997/98 Ericsson Cup and the 2000 Olympic games in Sydney. Qualifying for the World Cup in 1998 would be a terrific bonus for the game in Australia.

David Hill is the Soccer Australia Chairman.

CHAIRMAN'S message

ALEX TOBIN



"YES, WE WILL DO IT"

says Socceroo skipper

by Doug Conway of the Australian Associated Press

Yes, the Socceroos will overcome New Zealand, provided they don't underestimate for a moment their oldest and deadliest regular enemies.

Yes, they can go on to eliminate whichever team the vagaries of the Asian qualifiers throw in their path.

Yes, they can end a drought of almost a quarter of a century by reaching the World Cup finals.

And yes, if they make it to France they are capable of causing more than a few surprises among the elite of the world game.

So says Socceroo skipper Alex Tobin.

Yes is a word prominent in his vocabulary these days.

Tobin is no stranger to wearing the captain's armband but leading his country for the first time in a World Cup campaign, is well aware that the Australians have never had a better chance of playing in the finals.

"If we don't make it this time we'll only have ourselves to blame," he said. Underneath Tobin's genial exterior beats a heart of pure resolve, and he is determined to take his team to Paris.

The Socceroos, blessed with their easiest passage ever, have their strongest team ever in the hands of their best-credentialed coach. But the seasoned 31-year-old defender has been around far too long to take anything for granted, least of all the traditional rivals from across the Tasman who always save their best for Australia.

Now that the All Whites are on the scene, the days of whitewashing the Solomons and Tahitians are a thing of the past.

The history books and form guides say that favouritism belongs to Australia, whose World Cup record against New Zealand, prior to this year, showed five wins, five draws and two losses spread over the previous six qualifying campaigns.

But when you boil it down both nations have reached the finals once each.

"The World Cup is the one that counts," Tobin said.

"If the New Zealanders are going to lift themselves for any one game, it will be the game against Australia.

"They'll run, chase and harass you all day.

"Mind you, winning 3-0 in Auckland, on a poor surface, should mean we will win well at the Sydney Football Stadium."

Tobin is a big fan of Socceroo coach Terry Venables, who has brought to his new post a wealth of experience as an England international as well as managerial credits which include Crystal Palace, QPR, Barcelona, Tottenham Hotspur and the England team which succumbed to Germany in a semi-final penalty shoot-out at Euro '96.

"He's a player's coach," said Tobin.

"He responds well to players, he was a player himself, he

knows what they are going through.
"Above all that's what the players respect.
"He's a funny guy. The press know that he can throw a joke from anywhere, and he's like that with the squad as well.
"He likes to give encouragement where needed. Even players of international standard like to be told what they are doing is right or wrong.
"He communicates very well, and coaches often on a one-to-one level.
"The players appreciate that. He's taken time to get to know them and sort out little problems with individuals. The players have warmed to him very quickly.
"His coaching pedigree is one you could not question.
"He's got a lot of experience with big clubs, even the England national team.
"When the pressure is on against New Zealand, in Asia or wherever, he's the one to have on the spot."
Tobin, approaching 70 caps for his country, is in a very positive frame of mind. He even saw a lot of benefits emerge as the Socceroos thrashed the Solomon Islands and Tahiti last month in four matches which produced 26 goals for and two against.
The biggest plus was the gathering of the clan itself for a month-long camp. When the cream of Australian soccer talent is spread in 10 countries across the continents, that is a rarity.
"Even when you're scoring 13 goals you are still getting important match time together," Tobin said.
"You're getting used to the way everyone plays. It's all about trying to gel as a team. Getting the whole squad together for such a long time has been a big bonus.
"Even the guys in Europe don't see a lot of each other. They're in their own countries and doing their own things.
"Some hadn't seen each other for a year or two.
"The more we can be together the better it is for our preparation."
Tobin is delighted there are no Argentinas, Colombias or Scotlands in Australia's path this time. But be warned: "There is no room for complacency. The problem is if the players have it in their minds that it's an easy run.
"Reaching France would give an enormous boost to Australia's national league, and the game in general here," he said.
"Soccer in Australia needs that sort of lift and impetus. And it doesn't get bigger than the World Cup."

ALEX TOBIN: FACT FILE

D.O.B: 3-11-65
Club: Adelaide City (Joined in 1984)
Previous Club: West Torrens Birkalla
Int Apps: 68
Int Goals: 2
Honours: Adelaide City 'Player of the Year' twice
NSL Champions with Adelaide City:
1986, 1992, 1994
NSL Cup Winners: 1989, 1992
Australian Youth Team from 1984
Olympic Games 1988
Socceroo debut: January, 1988 versus Gothenburg (Sweden)
Socceroo full international debut: Versus Chinese Taipai
Scored first Socceroo goal on debut

f i l e

Vice-Captain Aurelio Vidmar: Another Aussie asset.

ROBBIE SLATER

LATEST SCORE

Robbie Slater had one of his most successful seasons in England during the 1996/97 campaign with Southampton. Although the south coast club flirted with relegation for much of the year, Robbie was outstanding for the side and was eventually named as the 'Player of the Year' at the Dell, an award his idol, Kevin Keegan, also won some years ago.

Slater is now looking at a new fight, the fight to qualify for the World Cup Finals in France next year with Australia but he never thought in his wildest dreams that this moment could be just around the corner:

"When you start off as a kid you have dreams like everyone else." He says: "I kicked a ball around the back yard pretending I was Kevin Keegan and I'm sure a lot of other kids did too. If it were not for my mother, I would never have gone so far in soccer."

When asked about good fortune along the way, he adds:

"The things that have happened to me show I have been very fortunate in many, many ways. I'm lucky enough to have realised many of my childhood ambitions. With Blackburn I won the Premiership, I've played at Wembley in the Charity Shield, and for Australia I've played against the likes of Diego Maradona and in countries such as Argentina. All of these are great memories but, to play in the Premiership, now that I'm older, is still a great thrill."

Many people suggested the move from West Ham to The Saints may have been a retrograde step for the much-travelled Socceroo star and that his form may suffer because of it:

"To be honest, Graeme Souness said he had problems at Southampton when I signed. I was his first signing for the club and he wanted an outside, wide player and I was his first choice. We defeated Manchester United 6-3 and for a while things looked good, but then our fortunes took a dive and it began to look dicey. Perhaps the problem was, when you sign a lot of players it takes time for them to gel as a team. We had an Aussie, a Dutchman, a Norwegian and an Israeli, we were bottom of the league with only two months of the season remaining and completely written off by all the soccer pundits."

In this situation, what can a team do to reverse the trend?

"We read the papers and saw they had given us no chance of survival and I suppose we all thought it was time to prove them wrong, to do something about it. We did just that and strung together a run of six matches without defeat, including many wins against those clubs at the bottom of the league with us. Personally, I started creating goals for others and even managed to score a couple as well, but the important thing was the club staying in the Premier League."

Life in the fast-paced, all-action Premier League can take its toll on players but as Robbie comments:

"I cannot say often enough how much I'm enjoying my time there. The people are great and the fans have taken to me. The club is very professional and this year I was honoured to be voted the 'Player of the Year'. Looking at the trophy I see the names of Kevin Keegan, my boyhood hero, Mick Channon and Alan Shearer. To be held in the same regard as them is really an honour."

On to the Socceroos and the appointment of National Team Coach, Terry Venables: "I have been very impressed, especially when you consider he has managed many big clubs in England and Europe; Barcelona, Tottenham and England. To be honest, I was very surprised when we got him. There were many doubters in Australia when he was first appointed, however, there can be no argument that it was the best thing we could have done. He has lifted the profile of Australian soccer and is sharing his experience with the players. Ten wins out of ten so far, I'd like to see what other coach could match that record."

Some of those victories have been against tough opposition, the result against Hungary standing out:

"They were second in their European World Cup qualifying group at the time and it was their national hero's birthday, they did not want to spoil his party.

honours

St George:	• Grand Final Winner 1982
	• NSL Champion 1983
Sydney Utd:	• Grand Finalist 1988
	• SBS's Most Entertaining Player of the Year
	• National Cup Winner 1989
Lens:	• Oceania Footballer of the Year 1991
	• Oceania Footballer of the Year 1993
	• Lens Player of the Year (twice)
Blackburn R:	• Premier League Champion
	• Charity Shield Runners-up
Southampton:	• Player of the Year 1996/1997

Having played for Australia for some time now, I have to say that that was one of our best ever performances. We were away, for a start, and our record away from home soil isn't too good, plus their players were playing for their own World Cup places. Whilst I think the 3-1 result was well deserved, the last two goals came in the closing minutes and the way we played that day, we could have scored two or three more."

Many point to the 'lack of opposition' in the World Cup qualifying group recently completed and ask: How do the players stay motivated for games they're expected to win?

"Clearly we all want to be a part of the final squad and by playing through the qualifying rounds we stand a much better chance of making it. We're professional enough to know we must perform but there is always the chance these games can throw up the odd surprise or two. Whether we are playing Tahiti, the Solomon Islands or whoever, they are always out to beat you and, perhaps, spring that shock result on you.

"We expect to beat New Zealand. We should aim for more goals. Three-nil victories are O.K. but our supporters will demand more." Over 170 countries entered the 1998 World Cup competition and outside of everyone's favourite, Brazil, who does Robbie Slater see as playing a major part in the finals?

"France have a very good side and playing at home will benefit them of course. After them it's the traditional teams of Italy, Germany and Brazil. Argentina will probably be up there as well and do not count out England. Glenn Hoddle is a good coach but maybe they shouldn't have let Terry go. I couldn't understand it at the time but their loss is our gain."

Having lived and played in France for many years, what's the build-up to the '98 finals like?

"I played for Lens for five years and they have now built a magnificent new stadium and, in all, there are about nine other stadiums going up around the country. It will be a fantastic tournament as the French are very passionate about their football and they don't want to let anyone down after the success of Italia '90 and USA '94.

"Australia in the finals? Yes, we will be there."

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NEW ZEALAND

PLAYER PROFILES

Joe McGRATH
- Coach

Spent 10 years as the Technical Director and 15 years as the National Youth Team Coach in Ireland, which included nine European and five World finals. He arrived in New Zealand in March, 1996. Was appointed Technical Director for Soccer New Zealand and then National coach in March 1997, along with NZ Olympic (U-23) and Youth Team (U-20) coach.

Ken DUGDALE
Assistant Coach

This former professional footballer with Wigan Athletic, in the UK, arrived in New Zealand in 1972 and played for Gisborne City until 1974. A further four years followed with club side 'Stop Out'. Became the full-time coach of Western Suburbs and later, Wellington United in the National League, and was appointed Assistant Coach to the All Whites in 1994.

Steve CAIN
Assistant Coach

A Physical Education and History Teacher, Cain is a former National League player who went on to coach Waitakere City, the National League Champions in 1997.

John ADSHEAD
Tour Manager

Adshead is the former National coach who helped New Zealand qualify for the 1982 World Cup Finals in Spain, and was at the helm for the World Cup campaign of 1988. His title these days is that of 'General Manager National Teams' but his experience speaks for itself.

Jason BATTY
D.O.B: 23-3-71
Position: Goalkeeper
Club: Albuquerque Geckos
Int. Apps: 27

A classy goalkeeper who isn't afraid of getting in where it hurts. Possesses excellent reflexes.

Neil HARLOCK
D.O.B: 29-5-75
Position: Defender
Club: Wollongong Wolves (Australia)
Int. Apps: 13

The first of the New Zealand side that will be no stranger to Australian fans as Neil plys his trade with Wollongong City Wolves.

Rodger GRAY
D.O.B: 6-4-66
Position: Defender
Club: Waitakere City
Int. Apps: 52

With over 50 caps for the national side, Gray has become well established as the linchpin of the All White defence.

Noah HICKEY
D.O.B: 9-6-78
Position: Midfield
Club: Central United
Int. Apps: 3

More noted as a utility player as he can play anywhere from sweeper to striker. One of the youngest members of the All White squad.

Ivan VICELICH
D.O.B: 3-9-76
Position: Defender
Club: Central United
Int. Apps: 7

Plays with All White team-mate Danny Hay in a defensive role at club level, but can be used as a sweeper and is good in the air.

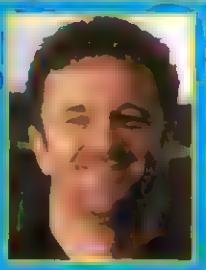
Gavin WILKINSON
D.O.B: 5-11-73
Position: Midfield
Club: Perth Glory (Aus)
Int. Apps: 9

Made his mark in the Ericsson Cup when transferring from club side Waitakere City to Perth Glory last season. Slots in well at centre-back.

SOCCE
PLAYER P

John ALOISI
D.O.B.: 5 2 76, Adelaide
Club: Cremonese (Ita)
Previous Clubs:
A. .S., Adelaide C ty,
Standard L ege &
Roya Antwerp (Bel)
Int. Apps: 5
Goals: 6
Position: Forward

An exc t ng forward with a hunger for goals. A ris ng star with plenty of European experience

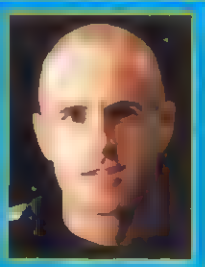


Graham ARNOLD
D.O.B.: 3 8 63
Club: Sanfrecce Hiroshima (Jap)
Previous Clubs:
Sydney United, JC Roda
(Hol), Charlero (Bel), NAC
Breda (Hol)
Int. Apps: 53
Goals: 19
Position: Forward
An exper enced frontman who does a lot of running off the ball and sets up many scoring opportunit es for his team-mates.

Craig FOSTER
D.O.B.: 15 4 69
Club: Marcon Fa rfield
Previous Clubs:
FAS Singapore
Ernst Bore Hong Kong
Ade a de City
Int. Apps: 11
Goals: 2
Position: Mid f e d
A graceful player not unaccustomed to scoring A player who can d ctate the tempo of the game when on song.

Zeljko KALAC
D.O.B.: 16 1 72
Club: Sydney United
Previous Clubs:
Sydney United Leicester
City, Eng Wolves (Eng,
Int. Apps: 24
Goals: N
Position: Goalkeeper
A team gains confidence knowing that they have a goalkeeper of th s class behind them H s height g ves him a huge advantage only equaled by his undoubted talent.

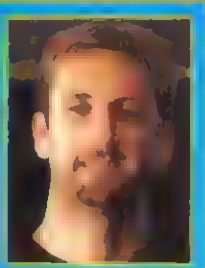
Matthew BINGLEY
D.O.B.: 16 8 71, Auburn
(NSW
Club: Marconi Fa rfie d
Previous Clubs:
St George BSC
Int. Apps: 11
Goals: 4
Position: Midfield
B ngley s a young player who has b ossomed under Terry Venables and was one of the stars of the Four Nat on tournament played in January.



Robbie HOOKER
D.O.B.: 6 3 67
Club: West Ade aide
Previous Clubs:
Sydney City
UTS Olympic
Int. Apps: 18
Goals: 2
Position: Sweeper Defender
Va ued member of the Socceroo squad Hooker is a vers atile p ayer who operates we as a sweeper

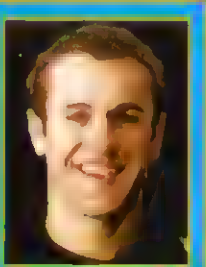
Stan LAZARIDIS
D.O.B.: 16 5 72 Perth
Club: West Ham United Eng
Previous Clubs: Floreat
Athena West Ade aide
Int. Apps: 18
Goals: 4
Position: Defender Midfielder
A player who rea y excites the crowd with h s dynamic runs down the flank and his ability to beat the man opposite h m time and time again

Mark BOSNICH
D.O.B.: 13 1 72, Auburn (NSW
Club: Aston Vi a (Eng)
Previous Clubs:
Sydey Utd, Manchester Utd
(Eng), Sydney Utd
Int. Apps: 9
Goals: 1
Position: Goalkeeper
Austra ia s best-known custodian A player who is command ng in the area and intimidates the oppos tion by h s mere presence on the field.



Steve HORVAT
D.O.B.: 14 3 71 Geelong
Vic
Club: Had ok Sp t (Cro
Previous Clubs:
Me bourne Kn ghts
Int. Apps: 11
Goals: N
Position: Defender
A rock in the Aussie defence A player of enormous potential and s very much n Terry Venables' first team plans Unlucky with njury during the Oceania qualifiers.

Craig MOORE
D.O.B.: 12 12 75,
Canterbury NSW
Club: Glasgow Rangers (Sco,
Previous Clubs: A I S
Int. Apps: 5
Goals: N
Position: Defender
A player of immense ability A foundation at the back on which the rest of the team can build Enjoyed a successful season at Glasgow Rangers



Robert ENES
D.O.B.: 22 8 75,
Shepparton (Vic)
Club: Sydney United
Previous Clubs:
A.I.S., Preston, Melbourne
Zebras
Int. Apps: 7
Goals: Nil
Position: Midfield
An influential midfielder who does not mind dropping back and doing some of the hard work. His runs forward can create havoc

Milan IVANOVIC
D.O.B.: 21 12 60,
Yugoslavia
Club: Adelaide City
Previous Clubs: Red Star
Be grade (Yug)
Int. Apps: 52
Goals: Nil
Position: Sweeper
Australian soccer's own Mr Perpetual motion Ivanovic cont nues to defy the clock as he produces world class defending, game after game!

Damian MORI
D.O.B.: 30 7 70 Melbourne
Club: Adelaide C ty
Previous Clubs:
Melbourne Kn ghts, Adelaide
City, Borussia
Monchengladbach (Ger,
Int. Apps: 28
Goals: 11
Position: Forward
Damian has one of the strongest shots in the game. His goalscoring record at international level is impressive.

EROOS PROFILES

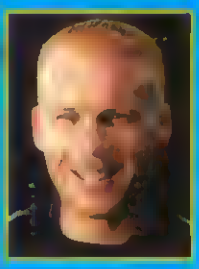
Paul TRIMBOLI

D.O.B.: 25-2-69, Melbourne
Club: South Melbourne
Previous Clubs: Brighton (Vic), A.I.S., Sunshine George Cross
Int. Apps: 27
Goals: 9
Position: Forward
The man whose fellow professionals think is the most gifted player in the NSL. He is the focus of many quality attacks and finishes with style.

Kevin MUSCAT

D.O.B.: 7-8-73, Crawley (Eng)
Club: Crystal Palace (Eng)
Previous Clubs: Sunshine George Cross, South Melbourne
Int. Apps: 10
Goals: 1
Position: Defender, Midfielder
His skill is balanced with a hard edge that intimidates many opponents. Most effective when rampaging out wide.

Robbie SLATER

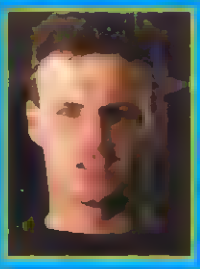


D.O.B.: 2[illegible]-11-64, Ormskirk (Eng)
Club: [illegible]
Previous Clubs: St George BSC, Blacktown City, Sydney United, Lens (Fra), Blackburn Rovers (Eng), West Ham United (Eng)
Int. Apps: [illegible] **Goals:** 1
Position: Midfield
[illegible] others scoring. Now [illegible] the Socceroo set-up [illegible] work [illegible] a much-wanted international player.

Tony VIDMAR

D.O.B.: 4-7-70, Adelaide
Club: Glasgow Rangers (Sco)
Previous Clubs: Adelaide City, Germinal Ekeren (Bel), Adelaide City, NAC Breda (Hol)
Int. Apps: 29
Goals: 1
Position: Defender
Gifted defender who operates as a wing-back on occasions. Set to establish him in the UK with Rangers.

Jason PETKOVIC



D.O.B.: 7-12-72, Freemantle (WA)
Club: Adelaide City
Previous Clubs: Spearwood Dalmatinac
Int. Apps: 4
Goals: Nil
Position: Goalkeeper
Whilst quieter than the two other keepers in the squad, sheer talent has established him as Australia's No. 3 keeper.

Ernie TAPAI

D.O.B.: 14-2-67, Yugoslavia
Club: Perth Glory
Previous Clubs: Morwell Falcons, Estoril Port, Stoke City (Eng), Adelaide City, Collingwood Warriors
Int. Apps.: 28 **Goals:** 5
Position: Midfield
A pocket dynamo in midfield ready to explode with skill on the field. Gets many a forward run underway and doesn't mind successfully converting those attacks into goals.

Aurelio VIDMAR

D.O.B.: 3-2-67, Adelaide
Club: CD Tenerife (Spa)
Previous Clubs: Kv Kortrijk, Sv Waregam, Standard Liege (Bel), Feyenoord (Hol), Sion (Swi)
Int. Apps.: 26
Goals: 10
Position: Midfield, Forward
His inspiring on-field leadership and example in scoring at the most critical of moments are just two aspects that go to make him a great player.

Tony POPOVIC

D.O.B.: 4-7-73, Sydney
Club: Sanfrecce Hiroshima (Jap)
Previous Clubs: Sydney United
Int. Apps: 20
Goals: Nil
Position: Defender
A tall, solid defender whose talent has been appreciated in the J-League where he now stars. Has struggled with injury recently, however, a player of enormous potential.

Alex TOBIN

D.O.B.: 3-11-65, Melbourne
Club: Adelaide City
Previous Clubs: West Torrens Birkalla
Int. Apps: 69
Goals: 2
Position: Defender
Dependable captain in the mould of Tony Adams of England. Solid at the back, his strength is his leadership qualities on the pitch.

Ned ZELIC

D.O.B.: 4-7-71, Canberra
Club: Auxerre (Fra)
Previous Clubs: Canberra, Sydney United, UTS Olympic, Borussia Dortmund (Ger), QPR (Eng), Eintracht Frankfurt (Ger)
Int. Apps: 23 **Goals:** 2
Position: Midfield, Utility
In a team of professional stars, Zelic still stands out. Ned can dictate terms on the pitch and is one of the most dangerous players in the world when running at a defence. The conductor in a tremendous orchestra.

Josip SKOKO

D.O.B.: 10-12-75
Club: Hadjuk Split (Cro)
Previous Clubs: Mt Gambier Croatia, North Geelong Warriors, A.I.S.
Int. Apps: 3
Goals: Nil
Position: Midfield
A classy young player who has made it in one of the toughest leagues in Europe. A midfielder who will wear the Green and Gold with pride for many years to come.

Kris TRAJANOVSKI

D.O.B.: 19-2-72, Geelong (Vic)
Club: Adelaide City
Previous Clubs: Geelong, Sunshine George Cross, South Melbourne (A.I.S.), Preston, South China (Hong Kong), Adelaide City, UTS Olympic
Int. Apps: 9 **Goals:** 7
Position: Forward
Exciting young player who burst onto the international stage with a flurry of goals. His time as a first-team regular is surely just around the corner.

1997

NEW ZEALAND PLAYER PROFILES Continued

Wynton RUFER
D.O.B: 29-12-62
Position: Midfield
Club: Kaiserlautern (Ger)
Int. Apps: 38
Although not the most capped of the All Whites, certainly the best known. His first World Cup campaign took him to the 1982 World Cup Finals in Spain.

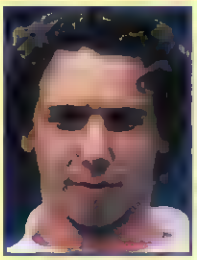
Mark ATKINSON
D.O.B: 16-2-70
Position: Midfield
Club: Central United
Int. Apps: 5
Attacking midfielder who is just at home in a defensive role. One of five players in the squad from the Auckland side, Central United, which made such an impact in the National League this term with their 'continental style' of play.

Mark ELRICK
D.O.B: 7-4-67
Position: Midfield/Forward
Club: Central United
Int. Apps: 22
Enjoys shooting from long range and is a dynamic, impact player, with a huge work-rate.

Michael McGARRY
D.O.B: 17-5-65
Position: Midfield
Club: Miramar Rangers
Int. Apps: 85
The senior man in the side and a very familiar face to the Australian players. His role is that of the 'midfield general'.

Gareth ROWE
D.O.B: 17-1-77
Position: Defender
Club: Napier City Rovers
Int. Apps: 2
Coach Joe McGrath likes to use the younger players in the squad and Gareth fits the bill. Had an excellent season in his defensive duties with Napier City.

Ken HARLOCK
D.O.B: 16-7-70
Position: Midfield
Club: Waitakere City
Int. Apps: 1
Plays for Waitakere City which has dominated the local scene in New Zealand in recent years, a capable midfielder who won his first cap against PNG in Port Moresby.



Nik VILJOEN
D.O.B: 3-12-76
Position: Forward
Club: Waitakere City
Int. Apps: 8
Scored on debut against Oman during the All Whites tour of the Middle East last year. Returned to New Zealand after a brief spell playing in England with Rotherham United.

Tim STEVENS
D.O.B: 14-11-72
Position: Midfield/Forward
Club: North Shore United
Int. Apps: 7
Joint top-scorer in the National League last term and a striker that's not afraid to answer the call for 'work-rate' in his game.

Danny HAY
D.O.B: 15-5-75
Position: Defender
Club: Central United
Int. Apps: 9
Captain of club side Central United. Strong, big and quick in defence and is well suited to the sweepers role.

Chris JACKSON
D.O.B: 18-7-70
Position: Midfield
Club: Tampines Rovers FC (Sin)
Int. Apps: 30
A rugged midfielder who has captured the eye in New Zealand's current Oceania campaign. Played in Singapore last season. Received a red card in the 1st Leg.

Riki VAN STEEDEN
D.O.B: 24-12-76
Position: Midfield
Club: Perth Glory (Aus)
Int. Apps: 9
Made his debut in the match against Fiji in their qualifying group. Will become a permanent fixture in the side in the years ahead.

Darren McCLENNANN
D.O.B: 21-10-65
Position: Forward
Club: Waitakere City
Int. Apps: 53
Danny is the sole survivor of the All White team which last beat Australia, 2-0 in Auckland, 1989. Loves to get involved in matches and noted for his strength in the air.

Simon ELLIOTT
D.O.B: 10-6-74
Position: Midfield
Club: Miramar Rangers
Int. Apps: 29
One of the 'young guns' of New Zealand soccer. Plays out wide and links well with Wynton Rufer on the pitch.

Vaughan COVENY
D.O.B: 13-12-71
Position: Forward
Club: South Melbourne (Aus)
Int. Apps: 40
Vaughan is a fast-paced forward, as supporters of South Melbourne can confirm. Added four international goals to his tally in the recent qualifying matches.

Mark PASTON
D.O.B: 13-12-76
Position: Goalkeeper
Club: Napier City Rovers
Int. Apps: Nil
Has become the No.2 goalkeeper and was a member of last season's league finalists Napier City Rovers. Still to make his debut for the national team.

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Australian Sports Commission

Sport for all

OCEANIA WORLD CUP QUALIFIER

NEW ZEALAND 0 - SOCCEROOS 3

Venue: North Harbour Stadium, Auckland, New Zealand
Date: Saturday, June 28, 1997

New Zealand line-up: Jason Batty, Danny Hay, Ivan Vicelich, Gavin Wilkinson, Mark Atkinson, Simon Elliott, Michael McGarry (Noah Hickey 61), Chris Jackson, Riki Van Steeden (Tim Stevens 85), Wynton Rufer, Vaughan Coveny.
Yellow card: Jackson 65
Red card: Jackson 67
New Zealand captain: Michael McGarry
New Zealand coach: Joe McGrath

Australian line-up: Mark Bosnich, Craig Moore (Tony Vidmar 88), Milan Ivanovic, Alex Tobin, Robbie Slater, Stan Lazaridis, Craig Foster, Ned Zelic, Aurelio Vidmar, John Aloisi, Graham Arnold.
Yellow cards: Arnold 55, Bosnich 70, A. Vidmar 76
Goals: Aloisi (19), A. Vidmar (42), Foster (66)
Australian captain: Alex Tobin
Australian coach: Terry Venables

Man of the Match: Craig Foster (Australia)

Stat Attack:

- This was Australia's 74th World Cup fixture
- The Socceroos have now played 303 international matches
- The 1st Leg victory against the All Whites was Australia's 32nd against their arch-rivals
- Craig Foster, Milan Ivanovic and skipper Alex Tobin all play in the Ericsson Cup
- Aurelio Vidmar has now scored 10 Socceroo goals
- Terry Venables' reign as Australian coach has yielded 10 straight victories. 37 Socceroo goals have been scored and only four goals conceded
- The most-capped current Australian player is Alex Tobin with 69 appearances in the Socceroo jersey
- New Zealand scored two goals in their only World Cup appearance in 1982. They lost to Scotland 2-5
- Australia did not score during their 1974 World Cup campaign
- If the Socceroos win tonight, it will be their third victory against the All Whites in 1997.

FOR THE RECORD

Australia v New

By Peter Law, soccer writer for *Four Four Two* magazine

For over a century the New Zealand Football Association, (founded in October, 1891), has worked hard to promote the code. However, it was not until the 1920s that the game began to establish itself.

Firstly, in 1922, came two parallel events that helped [illegible] the game on a better footing. There was the formation of a national side who played their first international match, naturally enough, against Australia in Dunedin, winning by 3-1. There was also the addition of the Chatham Cup to help bring focus to the local game.

[illegible] with Australia, including a 10-0 loss in Wellington during July, 1936.

[illegible] 1951 [illegible]

After living in the shadows for so long, New Zealand football [illegible] 1964. The Kiwis lost 14 of the games but from the trip came a desire for making things better for the future.

One major move was the establishment of a National League in 1970, the first truly national club competition in New Zealand sports.

[illegible] outflanked by Israel.

New Zealand hosted the first Oceania Cup in Auckland, defeating Tahiti in the inaugural 1973 final. (Australia were absent). It marked a sign of development as the All Whites prepared for the first World Cup meetings with Australia that same year. Australia may have qualified for West Germany the next year, but Barry Truman's boys held Rale Rasic's side to a pair of draws in the qualifiers.

[illegible] home to Australia.

[illegible] Cup winners in 1980, the competition had seen New Zealand disappoint, losing to Tahiti and Fiji with abject [illegible]. Come 1981 and there was little sign of what lay ahead. Another World Cup campaign began against Australia in Auckland, the All White spirit shining bright as they equalised [illegible] three ties unbeaten. Ahead lay the Sydney return clash with Australia. An historic 2-0 away triumph placed the Kiwis firmly in the driving seat, en route to the Asian stages, finishing up qualifying behind Kuwait for the 1992 World Cup in Spain.

While defeats against Scotland, Russia and Brazil saw the [illegible] to Scotland.

Since tasting the big time, New Zealand have remained [illegible] to Australia, drawing both World Cup ties in 1985, and helping Israel clinch a play-off place in 1989 after a 2-0 win in Auckland.

[illegible] qualifying double over the All Whites of Ian Marshall, after winning for the first time away, by a single goal, in Auckland.

[illegible] entering the Oceania Cup before Australia, forming a National League earlier, and joining FIFA first. Many of [illegible] players are moving abroad, often to Australia.

Today New Zealand sit at number 122 in the world, while Australia are at 33.

With just one big star (Wynton Rufer), the All Whites are [illegible] underestimate the surprise factor found in sports.

AD TO AD

Zealand

STATISTICS (Before the current Oceania World Cup play-offs)

New Zealand versus Australia in the World Cup

Auckland, Mar 4, 1973: New Zealand 1 (B Turner) Australia 1 (Campbell)
Sydney, Mar 16, 1973: Australia 3 (Utjesenovic, Baartz, Buljuvic)
New Zealand 3 (D Tindall 2, A Vest)
Sydney, Mar 27, 1977: Australia 3 (Ollerton 2, Kosmina) New Zealand 1 (Nelson)
Auckland, Mar 30, 1977: New Zealand 1 (K Nelson) Australia 1 (Ollerton)
Auckland, Mar 25, 1981: New Zealand 3 (G Turner, Woodin, Summer) Australia 3 (Krncevic 2, Boden)
Sydney, May 18, 1981: Australia 0 New Zealand 2 (Woodin, G Turner)
Auckland, Sep 21, 1985: New Zealand 0 Australia 0
Sydney, Mar 11, 1985: Australia 2 (Kosmina, Mitchell) New Zealand 0
Sydney, Mar 12, 1989: Australia 4 (Crino, Yankos, Arnold 2) New Zealand 1 (Dunford)
Auckland, Apr 2, 1989: New Zealand 2 (M Dunford, B Wright) Australia 0
Auckland, May 30, 1993: New Zealand 0 Australia 1 (Arnold)
Sydney, Jun 6, 1993: Australia 3 (A Vidmar, Zelic, Veart) New Zealand 0

Up to, but not including, current series..
Total for Australia: **P 12, W 5, D 5, L 2, F 21, A 14**

* Both sides have won one away game each
* Of the five draws, only one ended goal-less
* Record Australian win, 4-1, in Sydney.
* Record NZ victory, 2-0, achieved twice.
* Most goals in a game, six. Two 3-3 draws
* Both sides have made the World Cup Finals once: Australia in 1974 under Rale Rasic, New Zealand in 1982 under John Adshead
* NZFA: Founded 1891; Joined FIFA 1948; World Cup 1982; Oceania Cup 1973.
* Soccer Australia: Founded 1961; Joined FIFA 1963; World Cup 1974; Oceania Cup 1980.
* Australia hosted U-20 World Youth Championships in 1981 and 1993. New Zealand will host U-17 event in 1999.
* This is New Zealand's 47th and 48th World Cup qualifying tie since 1969.

Last meeting before this series: Melbourne, January 16, 1997.
NEW ZEALAND: Batty, Zoricich, Hay, Gray, Harlock, McGarry (Jacobs), Jackson, Burton, Elliott (New), Coveny (Elrick) McClennan.
Coach: Keith Pritchett
AUSTRALIA: Kalac, Babic, Tobin (Longo), Ivanovic, Genc (Casserly), Bingley, Hooker (Tapai), Foster, Zdrilic, Trimboli (Enes) Trajanovski (Spink).
Scorer: Matt Bingley 24; Attendance: 10,496
Coach: Terry Venables

Behind

every

winning team

there is

great

communication.

'yes'

OPTUS

A Look Back

Australia played their first full international on June 17, 1922, a 3-1 loss to New Zealand. A 2-1 reversal over the same opposition in Brisbane one year and six days later gave Australia their first international win.

1966 CAMPAIGN

It was not until 1965 that Australia played in their first World Cup qualification campaign. They had only to win two games to qualify for the finals in England. Both games were held in Phnom Penh, against North Korea. In June, Tiko Jelasevich had been appointed coach, and his captain for the campaign was Les Scheinflug.

The first game was played on November 21, 1965 and the Australian team was: Roberts, Shepherd, Ackerley, Hughes, Rice, Scheinflug, Sleight, Anderson, Blue, Watkiss and Todd. In front of 60,000 people, Australia were well beaten by six goals to one. The Australian goal was courtesy of a Scheinflug penalty in the 70-minute. No aggregate goal tally was used then so if Australia had won the second match, a third deciding game would have been played. It did not go to script as Australia lost the return game 1-3. Australia would not be heading to England in 1966.

National Coach: Tiko Jelasevich

1970 CAMPAIGN

The route to the finals was made far harder before the 1970 campaign got under way. In 1969, Australia had to play Japan and South Korea twice in a group format, all matches were played in Seoul. Australia defeated Japan 3-1 in their opening game (goalscorers: McColl, Warren and Baartz). Then, four days later, they beat South Korea 2-1 (Watkiss, McColl). The next game put a spanner in the works as Japan and Australia drew 1-1 (McColl). Australia had to win their final game against Korea to progress. The Korean side took the lead before Baartz equalised for Australia. Next stop was Rhodesia.

Both games finished in draws, 1-1 (McColl) and 0-0. So on November 29, 1969 a decider was played in the Salazar Stadium. Goals from Rutherford and Warren as well as an own goal, put Australia through 3-1.

Australia had to play Israel. In the 18-minute a free-kick deflected off David Zeman and past 'keeper Ron Corry to put Israel in the lead. The scoreline remained the same as Israel took a slender one goal lead into the 2nd Leg.

On December 14, 1969, at the Sydney Sports Ground, Australia drew 1-all (Watkiss) with Israel, losing the tie 1-2 on aggregate.

Again it was a case of so near, yet so far.

National Coach - Joe Vlasits

1974 CAMPAIGN

The 1974 qualification route was a long one and started with a series against New Zealand, Indonesia, and Iraq.

Auckland, Mar 4, 1973: NZ 1 (Turner) Australia 1 (Campbell)
Sydney, Mar 11, 1973: Australia 3 (Richards, Alston 2) Iraq 1
Sydney, Mar 13, 1973: Australia 2 (Campbell, Alston) Indonesia 1
Sydney, Mar 16, 1973: Australia 3 (Utjesenovic, Baartz, Buljevic) NZ 3 (Vest, Tindall 2)
Melbourne, Mar 18, 1973: Australia 0 Iraq 0
Sydney, Mar 24, 1973: Australia 6 (Mackay 2, Abonyi 2, Richards, Baartz) Indonesia 0

Australia qualified to play the winner of Sub Group B, Iran.

Sydney, Aug 18, 1973: Australia 3 (Alston, Abonyi, Wilson) Iran 0
Tehran Aug 24, 1973: Iran 2 Australia 0

Now it was South Korea for the Asia/Oceania World Cup finals spot in Germany.

Sydney, Oct 28, 1973: Australia 0 South Korea 0
Seoul, Nov 10, 1973: South Korea 2 Australia 2 (Buljevic, Baartz)

And so another game was needed at a neutral venue;

Hong Kong, Nov 13, 1973: Australia 1 (Mackay) South Korea 0

Australia had finally qualified for the World Cup finals.

Our record:
Hamburg June 14, 1974: East Germany 2 Australia 0
Hamburg June 18, 1974: West Germany 3 Australia 0
Berlin, June 22, 1974: Chile 0 Australia 0

	Pld	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
East Germany	3	2	1	0	4	1	5
West Germany	3	2	0	1	4	1	4
Chile	3	0	2	1	1	1	2
Australia	3	0	1	2	0	5	1

National Coach - Rale Rasic

The 1974 World Cup Team

1978 CAMPAIGN

In 1977, Australia faced New Zealand and Taiwan in the Oceania Group. The winner going on to a tournament with the four Asian group winners.

Ba (Fiji), Mar 13, 1977: Australia 3 (Rooney 2, Abonyi) Taiwan 0
Ba (Fiji), Mar 16, 1977: Taiwan 1 Australia 2 (Kosmina, Abonyi)
Sydney, Mar 27, 1977: Australia 3 (Ollerton 2, Kosmina 1) NZ 1 (Nelson).
Auckland, Mar 30, 1977: New Zealand 1 Australia 1 (Ollerton)

Australia went through to play Singapore, South Korea, Iran and Kuwait.

Adelaide, July 10, 1977: Australia 3 (Kosmina 2 Barnes) Hong Kong 0
Melbourne, Aug, 14, 1977: Australia 0 Iran 1
Sydney, Aug 28, 1977: Australia 2 (Kosmina 2) South Korea 1
Sydney, Oct 16, 1977: Australia 1 (Rooney) Kuwait 2
Seoul, Oct 23, 1977: South Korea 0 Australia 0
Hong Kong, Oct 13, 1977: Hong Kong 2 Australia 5 (Ollerton 3, Abonyi, Bennett)
Kuwait, Nov 19, 1977: Kuwait 1 Australia 0

Tehran, Nov 25, 1977: Iran 1 Australia 0

National Coach - Jimmy Shoulder

1982 CAMPAIGN

Rudi Gutendorf's side were well prepared for their opening clashes with New Zealand but as history records, it was not good enough:

Auckland, Apr 25, 1981: New Zealand 3 Australia 3 (Krncevic 2, Boden)
Sydney, May 16, 1981: Australia 0 New Zealand 2
Melbourne, May 20, 1981: Australia 2 (Kosmina, Davidson) Indonesia 0
Adelaide, Jun 10, 1981: Australia 3 (Henderson, Kosmina, Byrne) Taiwan 2
Suva, July 26, 1981: Fiji 1 Australia 4 (Cole 2, Shame, Barnes)
Melbourne, Aug 14, 1981: Australia 10 (Cole 7, Mitchell 3) Fiji 0

However, the All Whites went on to defeat Fiji 13-0 to qualify even with Australia having games to play. Youth was introduced into the squad for the final two matches.

Surabaya, Aug 30, 1981: Indonesia 1 Australia 0
Taiwan, Sep 6, 1981: Taiwan 0 Australia 0

* It had been 27 years since New Zealand had beaten Australia on their home soil. Gutendorf resigned and Scheinflug took over as caretaker manager for the remainder of the year.

National Coach - Rudi Gutendorf/Les Scheinflug

1986 CAMPAIGN

It was to be a long campaign, with the final hurdle being a home and away series against the runners-up of European Group Seven.

Auckland, Sep 21, 1985: New Zealand 0 Australia 0
Tel Aviv, Oct 10, 1985: Israel 1 Australia 2 (Mitchell, Kosmina)
Melbourne, Oct 20, 1985: Australia 1 Israel 1 (Ratcliffe)
Adelaide, Oct 23, 1985: Australia 7 (Mitchell 3, Dunn 2, O'Connor, Arnold) Taipei 0
Sydney, Oct 27, 1985: Australia 8 (Odzakov 3, Kosmina 3, Crino, Gray). Taipei 0 **Sydney, Nov 3, 1985:** Australia 2 (Kosmina, Mitchell) New Zealand 0

Australia qualified and now took on Scotland.

Glasgow, Nov 20, 1985: Scotland 2 Australia 0
Melbourne, Dec 4, 1985: Australia 0 Scotland 0

Although bowing out, Australian soccer could hold its head high.

National Coach - Frank Arok

1990 CAMPAIGN

Sydney, Mar 12, 1989: Australia 4 (Crino, Arnold 2, Yankos) New Zealand 1
Tel Aviv, Mar 19, 1989: Israel 1 Australia 1 (Yankos 70)
Auckland, Apr 2, 1989: New Zealand 2 Australia 0
Sydney, Apr 16, 1989: Australia 1 (Trimboli) Israel 1
National Coach - Frank Arok

1994 CAMPAIGN

The campaign started against the Solomon Islands.

Honiara, Sep 4, 1993: Solomon Islands 1 Australia 2 (Veart, McCulloch)
Papeete, Sep 11, 1993: Tahiti 0 Australia 3 (Mori, Veart, Wade)
Brisbane, Sep 20, 1993: Australia 2 (Veart, Durakovic) Tahiti 0
Newcastle, Sep 26, 1993: Solomon Islands 1 Australia 6 (Genc, Gray, Wade, Veart, Brown, Durakovic)
Auckland, May 30, 1994: New Zealand 0 Australia 1 (Arnold)
Melbourne, Jun 6, 1994: Australia 3 (Veart, A. Vidmar, Zelic) New Zealand 0

Australia now had to take on Canada.

Edmonton, Jul 31, 1994: Canada 2 Australia 1 (Dasovic og)
Sydney, Aug 15, 1994: Australia 2 (Farina, Durakovic) Canada 1. Australia won 4-1 on penalties, (Wade, A. Vidmar, Tobin, Farina).

The final deciding games were against Argentina.

Sydney. Oct 31, 1994: Australia 1 (A. Vidmar) Argentina 1
Buenos Aires, Nov 17, 1994: Argentina 1 Australia 0

(Australia lost 2-1 on aggregate)

National Coach - Eddie Thomson

1998 CAMPAIGN

And so we enter a new era in Australian soccer under the guidance of one of the game's most celebrated coaches, Terry Venables. The group matches leading up to this two-legged qualifier against New Zealand went as follows, (all matches played at Parramatta Stadium, Sydney).

June 11, 1997: Australia 13 (Mori 5, Aloisi 5, Bosnich pen, Foster, Tapai) Solomon Islands 0
June 13, 1997: Australia 5 (Trimboli 2, A Vidmar, Arnold, Bingley) Tahiti 0
June 17, 1997: Solomon Islands 2 Australia 6 (Tapai 2, Slater, Arnold, Buga og, A. Vidmar pen)
June 19, 1997: Tahiti 0 Australia 2 (Zelic, Trimboli)
National Coach - Terry Venables

If the Socceroos qualify tonight, they go on to meet the fourth-placed Asian side for the right to represent Australia in the 1998 World Cup finals in France.

Photos by **JRP/James Rankin Photography**

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